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A
LETTER

FROM

WILLIAM SHIRLEY, *Esq*;
GOVERNOR of *Massachusetts Bay*, K.

To his Grace the

Duke of *Newcastle*:

WITH

A JOURNAL of the Siege of
Louisbourg, and other Operations of the
Forces, during the Expedition against
the *French Settlements on Cape Breton*;
drawn up at the Desire of the Council
and House of Representatives of the
Province of *Massachusetts Bay*; approved
and attested by Sir *William Pepperrell*,
and the other Principal Officers who
commanded in the said Expedition.

Published by Authority.

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LETTER

TO THE

MEMBERS OF THE

COMMISSIONERS OF THE

LAND OFFICE

IN

REPLY TO A

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A LETTER from Wil-
liam Shirley, *Esq*; Governor of
Massachusetts Bay, to his Grace
the Duke of Newcastle, &c.

Louisbourg, October 28, 1745.

My Lord Duke,



THE Council, and House
of Representatives of the
Province under my Go-
vernment, having taken
Occasion, in a late Ad-
dress to me, to desire, that
upon my Arrival here, "I
" would give Orders, that
" a full Account of the Proceedings of the
" *New-England* Forces raised under my Com-
" mission, for the Reduction of *Cape Breton*, du-
" ring the late Siege of this Place, to the Time
" of its Surrender, should be transmitted in the
" most effectual Manner, and as soon as pos-
" sible, to his Majesty," I have caused the
inclosed Account of their Proceedings and
Services, from their first landing at *Canso*, to
the Time of the Surrender of this Place, to
be taken upon the Spot, from Persons who
were privy to every Part of the Transactions,
and to be laid before Sir *William Pepperrell*,

and other principal Officers of the Army, for their Perusal and Attestation; and am persuaded, from my own Observations upon the Spot, as well as the Accounts of these Gentlemen, that it contains a just Representation of the Conduct and Behaviour of the Troops in the Reduction of this Place; and now take the Liberty to transmit it to your Grace, pursuant to the Assembly's Request to me. The Sum of this Account is, That the *New-England* Troops having sailed from *Canso* the 29th of *April*, till which Time they were detained there by the unusual Quantity of Ice in *Chappeau-Rouge-Bay*, came to an Anchor the next Morning, between Nine and Ten, in the Bay, at the Distance of about two Miles from *Flat-Point-Cove*, where being discovered by the Enemy, a Party of about 150 Men were detached from *Louisbourg*, under the Command of Captain *Morepang* and M. *Boularderie*, to oppose their landing: That General *Pepperrell* having made a Feint to land a Party in Boats at the *Cove*, in order to draw the Enemy thither, did, by a Signal from the Vessels, cause those Boats suddenly to row back, and join another Party of Boats under his Stern, out of which were landed, at two Miles Distance from the *Cove*, about one Hundred of our Men, before the Enemy could come round to oppose them, who, notwithstanding the Enemy had the Advantage of being covered by their Woods, attacked them so briskly, that they killed six of them upon the Spot, took as many Prisoners, (among

among whom was *M. Baularderie*) wounded several more, and, after exchanging some Shot, put the rest to Flight, (some of whom were taken Prisoners the next Day,) with the Damage sustained on our Side, of only two Men's being slightly wounded: That 2000 of the Troops were landed the same Day, and the Remainder, being near 2000 more, the Day following: That, on the next Day, a Detachment of 400 of our Men marched round to the North East Harbour, behind the Range of Hills there, where they burnt all the Enemy's Houses and Stores in that Neighbourhood, at the Distance of about a Mile from the Grand Battery, whereby such a Terror was struck into them, that the same Night they deserted that Battery, leaving the Artillery, consisting of 28 Cannon of 42 *lb.* Shot, and two of 18 *lb.* and the Ordnance Stores belonging to it, (except their Powder, which they threw into a Well) so precipitately, that they only spiked up their Cannon in a slight Manner, without knocking off any of the Trunnions, or doing other Damage to them, and but very little to the Carriages: That the next Morning, being the 3d of *May*, a Party of about fifteen or sixteen of our Men discovered that the Enemy had abandoned the Grand Battery, and drove off a Party of them, which attempted to reland there, that Morning, in Boats, notwithstanding they stood on the open Beach, exposed to the Fire of the Enemy's Cannon from the Town, and their Musquetry from the Boats: That notwithstanding

withstanding an incessant Fire from the Enemy's Cannon and Mortars in the Town, at the Distance of 6913 Feet from it, and, from the Island Battery, at the Distance of 4800 Feet, our Troops, by the next Day, cleared three of the Cannon in the Grand Battery, which pointed against the Town, and returned their Fire upon the Enemy there, and also from other of the Guns, which pointed against the Island Battery, and were, by Degrees, unspiked in a few Days : That our Troops, within the Compass of 23 Days from the Time of their first landing, erected five Fascine Batteries against the Town, consisting of Cannon, some of 42 lb. Shot, others of 22 lb. and others of 9 lb. Mortars of 13, 11, and 9 Inches Diameter, with some Cohorns ; all which were transported by Hand, with incredible Labour and Difficulty, and most of them above two Miles, all the Ground over which they were drawn, except small Patches, or Hills of Rocks, being a deep Morass, in which, whilst the Cannon were upon Wheels, they several Times sunk so deep, as not only to bury the Carriages, but the whole Body of the Cannon likewise : Horses and Oxen could not be employed in this Service, but all must be drawn by Men themselves, up to the Knees in Mud at the same Time ; the Nights in which the Work was to be done, cold and Foggy, their Tents bad, there being no proper Materials for Tents to be had in *New-England*, at the Outlet of the Expedition : But notwithstanding these Difficulties, and many

many of the People's being barefooted, and almost without Cloaths, by Means of this Service, in which they had worn them out, and their being taken down with Fluxes, so that at one Time there were 1500 Men incapable of Duty, occasioned by their Fatigue, they went on chearfully without being discouraged, or murmuring, and, by the Help of Sledges, transported the Cannon and Mortars over these Ways, which the French had always thought impassable for such heavy Weights, and was indeed impracticable by any People of less Resolution and Perseverance, or less Experience in removing heavy Bodies; and besides this, they had all their Provisions and heavy Ammunition, which they daily made Use of, to bring from the Camp over the same Way upon their Backs.

To annoy our People in making their Approaches, and carrying on their Batteries, the Enemy erected new Works, where they mounted some Cannon, from whence, as well as from the Cannon of other Batteries, and from their Mortars, they continually maintained a strong Fire, till their Cannon was silenced by being dismounted, or having their Men beat off by our Cannon.

The most advanced of our five Batteries, which was finished on the 17th of May, was within the Distance of 250 Yards from the West Gate of the Town; so that from this Battery several of the Enemy were killed by our Musquetry, as were some of our Men by the Enemy's from the Walls; and indeed
this

this Battery was so near the Enemy's Works, that our Men were obliged to load the Cannon there under the Fire of their Musquetry, which was very sharp on both Sides, the Enemy generally opening the Action every Morning with the Fire of their Small Arms upon this Battery, for two Hours, which was constantly returned with Advantage on our Side. The Execution done from these, and the Grand Battery, was very considerable: The West Gate was entirely beat down, the Wall adjoining very much battered, and a Breach made in it at about 10 Feet from the Bottom of the Wall. The Circular Battery of 16 Cannon, 24 Pounders, near the West Gate, (and the principal one against Ships next to the Grand Battery, and Island Battery) was almost entirely ruined, and all the Cannon, but three, dismounted. Their North East Battery, consisting of two Lines of 42 and 32 Pounders, in all seventeen Cannon, another principal Battery against Ships, was damaged, and the Men beat off from their Guns. The West Flank of the King's Bastion belonging to the Cittadel, and the Battery there of six 24 Pounders, which pointed to the Land Side, and greatly annoyed our Works, was almost demolished. Two Cavaliers of two 24 Pounders, each raised during the Siege, and two other Cannon of the same Weight of Metal, run out at two Embrasures, cut through the Parapet near the West Gate at the same Time, (all pointing against our Batteries) were damaged and silenced.

silenced. The Cittadel was very much damaged ; several Houses in the City entirely demolished, and almost every one more or less hurt ; and *Maurepas-Gate*, at the Easternmost Part of the City, shatter'd : And as cross Fires from the Cannon and Mortars, and even from our Musquetry, ranged through the Houses and Streets in every Part of the City, and through the Enemy's Parades, whereby many were killed, it drove the Inhabitants out of their Houses into Casemates, and other cover'd Holds, where they were obliged to take Refuge for several Weeks : And besides this, the Fire from the Grand Battery damaged also the Barracks of the Island Battery.

During this Time, our Parties of Scouts so thoroughly ranged the Woods, that they seldom returned without bringing in some Prisoners, which very much confined the Enemy within their Walls, who were constantly worsted in all Skirmishes, and repulsed in every Sally which they made, and frequently by an inferior Number of our Men, and with very little Loss, upon these Occasions, sustained on our Side, the Chief of which was a Party of 18 of our Men stragling contrary to Orders, being surprized and cut off by a large Number of *Indians*, and another of Nine, coming on Shore, out of one of the Cruizers, to water, without their Arms, being likewise surprized and cut off by some *Indians*. That on the 26th of *May*, after some ineffectual Preparations for making an

B

Attack

Attack upon the Enemy's Island Battery, which is a strong Fort built on a rocky Island, at the Entrance into the Harbour, mounted with 30 Cannon of 28 lb. Shot, and having several Swivel Guns upon its Breast Work, and two Brass 10 Inch Mortars, and 180 Men, it was at Night attempted by a Party of 400 of our Men in Boats; but from the Strength of the Place, and the Advantage which the Enemy had by being under Cover, and our Men exposed in open Boats, the Surf running high, our Men not being thoroughly acquainted with the best Place for landing, and the Enemy besides (as is most probable) being apprized of their Design, they were repulsed with the Loss of having about 60 killed and drowned, and 116 taken Prisoners; yet under these Disadvantages several of them advanced within the Enemy's Battery, and maintained a Fight with them for some Time before they surrendered, and killed some of them: That it being judged of the utmost Consequence to make ourselves Masters of the Island Battery, as it was thought extremely dangerous for His Majesty's Ships to have entered the Harbour 'till the Enemy could be annoyed in that Battery; and it being after the last Attempt thought impracticable to reduce it by Boats, it was determined to erect a Battery near the Light-House opposite to it, at 3400 Feet distance from it; and the same was, by the 11th of June, notwithstanding the almost insuperable Difficulties, which attended the drawing

drawing of the Cannon up a steep Bank and Rock, raised in such Manner, as not to be exposed to more than four of the Enemy's Cannon, and at the same time to flank a Line of above twenty of their Guns; and two Eighteen Pounders were on that Day mounted, and began to play, and by the 14th of *June*, Four more Cannon of 18 *lb.* Shot were added, and on the 15th, a Mortar of 13 Inches Diameter was removed thither, out of which 19 Bombs were thrown, 17 whereof fell within the Island Battery, and one of them upon the Magazine; and this, together with the Fire from our Cannon, to which the Enemy was very much exposed, they having but little to shelter them from the Shot, which ranged quite through their Line of Barracks, so terrified them, that many of them left the Fort, and ran into the Water for Refuge. And now, the Grand Battery being in our Possession, the Island Battery (esteemed by the *French* the *Palladium* of *Louisbourg*) so much annoyed from the Light-house Battery, that they could not entertain Hopes of keeping it much longer; the Enemy's North-East Battery being damaged, and so much exposed to the Fire from our advanc'd Battery, that they could not stand to their Guns; the circular Battery ruined, and all its Guns but three dismounted, whereby the Harbour was disarmed of all its principal Batteries; the West Gate of the City being demolished, and a Breach made in the adjoining Wall; the west Flank of the King's Bastion almost

ruined ; and most of their other Guns, which had been mounted during the Time of the Siege, being silenced ; all the Houses and other Buildings within the City (some of which were quite demolished) so damaged, that but one among them was left unhurt ; the Enemy extremely harrassed by their long Confinement within their Casemates, and other covered Holds, and their Stock of Ammunition being almost exhausted, Mr. *Duchambon* sent out a Flag of Truce to the Camp on the 15th Day of *June* in the Afternoon, desiring time to consider of Articles of Capitulation, which was accordingly granted them 'till next Morning, when they sent Articles in, which were rejected by the General and Commodore, and others proposed by them in their Stead, and accepted by the Enemy : And Hostages being exchanged on the same Day for the Performance of the Articles, on the 17th of *June* the City was surrendred to Mr. *Warren* and General *Pepperrell*, and the Garrison, consisting of about 650 Regular Troops, and the Inhabitants of the City being about 1300 effective Men, besides Women and Children, made Prisoners by Capitulation, with the Loss on our Side of no more than 101 Men killed by the Enemy and all other Accidents from the Time of their Landing to the Reduction of the Place, and about 30 who died of Sickness.

I omit mentioning the Breaking up of the Settlements at *St. Peters*, and eight other Fishing Settlements upon this Island ; and the
 Burning

Burning of several Houses at *St. John's* Island within the Time of the Siege, by Companies put on board some of our Cruizers.

By this Representation of the Services of His Majesty's Land Forces, I would not be understood to intend to exclude his Majesty's Ships from their just Share in the Reduction of this Place. Mr. *Warren*, upon whom I very much depended from the Beginning for Assistance and Success in this Enterprize, did, upon his receiving Orders by his Majesty's Sloop *Hind*, the 9th of *March*, to proceed to *Boston*, and concert Measures with me for the Protection of *Nova Scotia*, and the Annoyance of the Enemy's Settlements, &c. immediately proceed with his Majesty's Ships *Superbe*, *Mermaid*, and *Launceston*, under his Command, for *Boston*; but upon getting Intelligence at Sea of the Departure of the *New-England* Land Forces for *Canso*, tho' he was then within 30 Leagues of *Boston*, without Refreshments, or his Complement of Ordnance-Stores, and one of his Ships not very fit for immediate Service, sail'd directly for that Place; where having overtaken the Forces, and conferred with the General by Letter, upon his Majesty's Service in the Expedition; and it being thought adviseable by both, that the Ships should directly proceed before *Louisbourg* Harbour to cut off all Supplies and Intelligence from the Enemy, immediately proceeded there, and most effectually blocked up the Harbour; and by engaging and taking the *Vigilant*, a French Ship of War of 64 Guns,

Guns, bound for *Louisbourg* with some Ordnance Stores, cut off from the Enemy all Hopes of any Supplies or Succours, and gave great Spirits to the Land Forces in carrying on the Siege; and afterwards, upon his Majesty's Ship *Chester's* Arrival from *England* to reinforce him, and receiving Advice that the *Canterbury* and *Sunderland* were following, determined to enter the Harbour as soon as those Ships should join him, and attack the Town and Batteries with his Majesty's Ships, whilst the Land Forces made an Assault upon the City by Land; which was agreed on, between Mr. *Warren* and the General, to be made the 16th of *June*, and the Ships were accordingly clearing on the 15th of *June*, in order to enter the Harbour, but were prevented by the Enemy's making Proposals for a Capitulation: And indeed Mr. *Warren* offered his Assistance for His Majesty's Service in every Shape.

It is unnecessary for me to trouble your Grace with a Detail of the Plans proposed during the Siege for a more speedy Reduction of the Place; as far as I can judge, it was effected most happily in the Manner which it was reduced in, as the Success of the Event was much more secure in this Way; and it has cost fewer Lives; and the Place was gained without the least Damage being done to any of his Majesty's Ships.

I hope these Services of the *New-England* Troops in the Field, which seem to have equalled the Zeal of the *Massachusetts's* Council and Assembly within their Province, for His Majesty's

Majesty's Service, upon this Occasion, may be graciously accepted by His Majesty, as a Proof of that perfect Duty and firm Loyalty which, I am persuaded, all the Colonies concerned in the Reduction of this Place (but especially that of the *Massachusetts*'s Bay, for which I can more particularly answer) bear to His Majesty's sacred Person, and to his Government, and of their ready Disposition to promote the general Welfare of his Dominions : And I humbly beg of your Grace to lay this Account before His Majesty, in such Manner as your Grace shall think most proper.

I am, &c.

William Shirley.



Myself's Service upon this Oration, may be
graciously accepted by His Majesty, as a Proof
of my perfect Fidelity and firm Obedience which
I am warranted, as the Colonies concerned
in the Rights of this Place, and especially
that of the Governor's Bay, for which I
am more particularly answerable, than to His
Majesty's service, and to his Govern-
ment, and of my ready Obedience to pro-
mote the general Welfare of his Dominions:
And I humbly beg your Grace to lay this
Account before His Majesty, in such Manner
as your Grace shall think most proper.

I am, &c.

William Shirley.



JOURNAL

Of the SIEGE of

LOUISBOURG, &c.

THE Forces raised within the Province of the *Massachusetts* Bay, being about 3250 Men, exclusive of Commission Officers, embark'd the 24th of *Mar.* 24. 1744-5.

March, 1744-5, in seven Weeks from the time of issuing Governor *Shirley's* Proclamation for raising them, under Convoy of the *Shirley-Galley*, then in the Employ of that Government, and now his Majesty's Frigate *Shirley*, Captain *Rous* Commander, and arrived the 4th of *April* at *Canso*, appointed by the Governor to be the Place of Rendezvous for the Transports and Cruizers, and for a Communication of Intelligence between himself at *Boston*, General *Pepperrell's* Camp before the Town of *Louisbourg*, and Mr. *Warren* from the Ships before the Harbour, and for lodging all Stores not in immediate Use in the Camp and Fleet, where they found the *New-Hampshire* Forces, being 304, inclusive of Commission Officers, arrived four Days before them, and were joined the 25th of the same Month by the *Connecticut* Forces, being 516, including Commission Officers. *Chapeaurouge Bay*, which was the Place appointed for landing the Troops, being so fill'd with Ice, as to make their landing impracticable before, they were detained there till the latter End of the Month; in which Time the General drew up and reviewed the Forces on *Canso Hill*, and formed the several

C

Detach-

Detachments ordered to be employed in the several Attacks proposed to be made immediately after their landing at *Flat Point Cove*, within three Miles of the Town of *Louisbourg*, to the W. S. W. and four Miles distant from the Grand Battery to the S. W. according to the Plan of Operations concerted at *Boston*, and there given him in Charge by the Governor's written Orders. During the Stay of the Troops there, a Blockhouse was erected on *Canso Hill*, and called *Cumberland*, the Flag being hoisted on his Royal Highness's Birth Day, picketted without, and defended by eight Cannon of nine Pound Shot, and to be garrison'd by two Companies of Soldiers of 40 Men each, besides Officers. From thence two arm'd Sloops were sent to *Bay Verte*, to take or destroy some Vessels that, according to Information, were to carry Provisions from thence to *Louisbourg*.

April 18. And the 18th of *April* the *Renomee*, a *French* Ship of War of 30 Guns, nine Pounders, with 300 Seamen and 50 Marines, being charged with publick Dispatches, fell in with the arm'd Vessels in the Service of the *Massachusetts's* Government before *Louisbourg* Harbour, where she maintained a Running Fight with them, but got clear by out-sailing them. This Ship afterwards fell in with the *Connecticut* Troops under the Convoy of their own Colony Sloop, and the *Rhode Island* Sloop, the latter of which she attacked and damaged considerably; but finally the Sloop got off, as did the Troops with their other Convoy during the Engagement. And after having made two more Attempts to push into the Harbour, and been again hindred and chased by the *Massachusetts's* Cruizers, returned to *France* without

without having delivered her Packets; from whence she sailed again the Beginning of July, with six Ships more, being the *Brest* Squadron, for *Louisbourg*.

The 22d of *April* Captain *Durell*, in his Majesty's Ship *Eltbam* of 40 Guns, arrived at *Canso* from *New-England*, having received Orders from Mr. *Warren* for that Purpose. April 22.

And on the 23d Mr. *Warren*, in his Majesty's Ship *Superbe* of 60 Guns, with the *Launceston* of 40 Guns, Captain *Calmady*, and the *Mermaid* of 40 Guns, Captain *Douglas*, under his Command, and after staying there some Hours, and having conferr'd with the General by Letter, Mr. *Warren*, with the rest of the King's Ships, failed to cruize off *Louisbourg*. April 23.

On the 29th of *April* the Troops embarked in four Divisions of Transports, and sailed for *Chapeaurouge Bay*, under Convoy of one arm'd Snow and two arm'd Sloops in the Service of the *Massachusetts*'s Government, under Fire of whose Cannon they were to land. And at the same Time a Detachment of 270 Men, under the Command of a Colonel, and Convoy of an arm'd Sloop in the Pay of the *New-Hampshire* Government, were sent to *St. Peter's*, a small *French* Settlement on *Cape Breton*, with Orders (pursuant to the before-mentioned Plan of Operations) to take the Place, burn the Houses, and demolish the Fort, which was accordingly effected. April 29.

On the 30th of *April*, between Nine and Ten in the Morning, the Fleet, having the main Body of the Troops on board, came to an Anchor in *Chapeaurouge Bay*, at the Distance of about two Miles from *Flat Point Cove*; upon the Discovery April 30.

of which the Enemy immediately fired some Cannon, and rang their Bells in the Town, to alarm and call in their People living in the Suburbs, and sent out of the Town a Detachment of about 150 Men, headed by Captain *Morepang* and M. *Boulerdrie*, late an Officer in the Duke of *Regiment* in *France*, to oppose the landing of our Troops; upon the Sight of which, the General made a Feint of landing a Party of our Men in Boats at *Flat Point Cove*, in order to draw the *French* thither, (which had its Effect;) and upon a Signal from the Vessels, the Boats returned, and joined another Party of Boats under his Stern, from whence, under the Fire of our Cannon, was landed, two Miles higher up the Bay, about 100 of our Men, before the Enemy could get up with them; and upon briskly attacking them, though under the Advantage of being covered with their Woods, after exchanging some Shot, killed six of them upon the Spot, took as many Prisoners, (among whom was M. *Boulerdrie*) and wounded several others; forced the Remainder to make a precipitate Flight towards the Town, with the Loss of some others, who were the next Day taken Prisoners before they recovered it, which was done with the Damage on our Part of only two Men being slightly wounded. On the same Day about 2000 of the Troops were landed without any farther Opposition.

May 1. On the next Day, being the 1st of *May*, the Remainder landed, and began to get Provisions and Stores ashore. The landing of Provisions, Ammunition, and heavy Artillery, was attended with extreme Difficulty and Fatigue, there being no Harbour there, the Surf almost continually

running

running very high, so that frequently for some Days together there was no landing any Thing at all; and when they did, the Men were obliged to wade high into the Water to save every Thing that would have been damaged by being wet. They had no Cloaths to shift themselves with, but poor Defence from the Weather; at the same Time the Nights were very cold, and generally attended with thick heavy Fogs, by Means whereof it was near a Fortnight before they could get all their Stores on shore; and notwithstanding all possible Care to prevent it, many Boats and some Stores were lost.

On *May* the 2d a Detachment of 400 Men *May* 2. was sent round behind the Hills to the North East Harbour, where they got about Midnight, and burnt the Enemy's Houses and Stores, about a Mile distant from the Grand Battery:

And on the 3d of *May* we took Possession of *May* 3. the Grand Battery which the Enemy had deserted, owing, as it is supposed, to the Surprize they were in, from the firing the Houses in the Neighbourhood. They had abandoned this Battery in so much Hurry and Confusion, that they had only spiked up their Guns, without breaking off any of the Trunnions, or much damaging their Carriages. There were found here 28 Cannon of 42 Pound Shot, and two of 18 Pound, 350 Shells of 13 Inches, and 30 Shells of 10 Inches, and a large Quantity of Shot. The same Day a Party of the Enemy in Boats attempted to regain the Possession of it, but were beat off by about 15 or 16 of our Men, who had before taken Possession of the Battery, and stood on the Beach exposed to the Enemy's Musquetry from the Boats, and Cannon from the Town, which

which played continually upon them. The Distance from the Grand Battery to the Island Battery is 4800 Feet. This Battery commands the whole Harbour from the Entrance between the Lighthouse Point and the Island Battery. Two Flanks of two Guns each point from hence against the Town, and a Line of 10 Guns against the Island Battery. The Remainder to the North East Part of the Harbour. By the Fire from hence during the Siege, the Cittadel and Houses in the Town suffered very much, as also the Barracks at the Island Battery. The Towers of this Battery were something damaged, one Man killed and a few wounded by the Enemy's Cannon, which fired very briskly upon it, as did also their Mortars from the Town and Island Battery, especially at the Beginning. In a few Days the Camp was formed about Half a Mile from the Place where they made a Feint of landing, but without throwing up Lines, depending only upon their Scouts and Guards; but afterwards they encamped regularly, and threw up Lines near the Place of landing their Stores; and Scouts during the Siege were constantly sent out, who seldom return'd without bringing some Prisoners, and very much confined the Enemy within their Walls, and prevented their making frequent Sallies.

May 4. *May* the 4th, we began to fire from the Grand Battery, from three Cannon which had been cleared, as likewise to bombard the Town from *Greenbill*, being the Place where the first Battery was planted, of one 13 Inch Mortar, one of 11 Inches, and one of nine Inches, two Cannon nine Pounders, and two Falconets, being two Miles distant from the Camp, 1550 Yards from the

the Cittadel. Five hundred Men were order'd to sustain this Battery; but finding the nine and eleven Inch Mortars would not reach the City, they were removed.

The 7th of *May*, and planted with 10 Co-*May 7.* horns at the Distance of 900 Yards from the Cittadel, where a Battery was erected.

The 10th of *May*, of four 22 Pounders. *May 10.*

The 13th two of them burst'd, owing to *May 13.* their not being sound.

The 15th of *May*, four 22 Pounders more *May 15.*

were brought to this Battery, as also the two 9 Pounders and 13 Inch Mortar from *Greenbill*.

From this Battery the City was bombard'd, and

as the Shot from this Battery ranged through

the Centre of the City, it damaged not only

the West Flank of the King's Bastion, which it

flank'd, but also the Cittadel and the greatest

Part of the Houses in the Town, and even Port

Maurepas in the Eastermost Part of the City.

This Battery was sustained by the same Forces

that sustained the Battery at *Greenbill*. The

Damage received at this Battery was the break-

ing the Trunnion of one Cohorn, and burst'ing

another; six Men wounded, of whom one

died by the Burst'ing of two 22 Pound Cannon.

One Man killed and two wounded by the Ene-

my the same Day.

The 25th of *May*, the 13 Inch Mortar was *May 25.*

burst'd, and a Bombardier wounded, occasioned

by some Flaw in the Shell, which broke in the

Mortar. Another 13 Inch Mortar from *Boston*

was mounted in the same Place, and play'd the

eighth Day after the other was burst'd. The

Transporting the Cannon was with almost in-

credible Labour and Fatigue, for all the Roads

over

over which they were drawn, saving here and there small Patches of rocky Hills, was a deep Morass, in which, while the Cannon was upon the Wheels, they several Times sunk, so as to bury not only the Carriages, but the whole Body of the Cannon likewise. Horses and Oxen could not be employ'd in this Service, but the whole was to be done by Men themselves, up to the Knees in Mud; at the same Time the Nights, in which the Work was done, cold, and for the most Part foggy; their Tents bad, there being no proper Materials to be had for Tents in *New-England*, at the Time the Forces were rais'd: But notwithstanding all these Difficulties, and the People being taken down chiefly with Fluxes, so that at one Time there was no less than 1500 incapable of Duty, occasion'd by their Fatigue, they went on cheerfully, without being discouraged or murmuring; and by the Help of Sledges of about 16 Feet in Length, and five Feet in Width, and 12 Inches thick, they transported the Cannon over these Ways, which the French had always thought impassable for such heavy Bodies, and was, indeed, impracticable by any People of less Resolution and Perseverance, or less Experience in removing heavy Weights; and besides this, they had all the Provisions, Powder, Shot and Shells that they daily made Use of, to transport over the same Ways upon their Backs. During this Time the *French* erected two Cavaleirs of two Guns each upon the Rampart of one of the Faces of the King's Bastion, planted a great Number of Swivel Guns upon the Wall facing the Harbour, and to secure the low Wall at the South East Part of the Town, added to the

Top

Top of it a Plank-work picketted, to raise it to the same Height with the rest of the Wall, and a Range of Pallisadoes at a little Distance within the Walls, and raised a little Battery of three small Guns upon the Parapet of the lower South Bastion fronting *Cape Noir*, a small Hill which very much commands the Town.

May the 7th, a Flag of Truce was sent into the Town with a Summons to deliver it up to his *Britannick* Majesty: To which an Answer was returned by *M. Duchambon* Commander in Chief, That the King his Master having entrusted him with the Defence of the Island, he could not hearken to any such Proposals till after the most vigorous Attack, and that he had no Answer to make but by the Mouth of their Cannon.

The 8th of May, the Enemy made a Sally out, but were soon repulsed.

The 13th, notwithstanding all the Care and Vigilance of the Men of War and the Colony Cruizers, a Snow from *Bourdeaux* got in, which they attempted to fire by a Fire-Ship from the Grand Battery, but in vain.

May the 16th, the Cohorns and nine and eleven Inch Mortars were removed to a Hill within 440 Yards of the West Gate; from whence they annoy'd the Enemy very much, and received no Damage at all. A Party of 100 Men came out of the Town in the Night, and landed near the Lighthouse Point, and the next Day attempted to surprize a Party that was posted at the Lighthouse, who first discovered the Enemy from an Eminence, where they were on Guard: Forty only of our Men advanced towards them: The Parties met in a Wood, and the Enemy were routed; five of them killed, and the

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sixth, the Lieutenant, wounded and taken Prisoner. The rest that escaped joined some others and 80 *Indians* about *Mera*, and were attacked two Days after by another Party of our Forces that were out on a Scout. This Dispute lasted a considerable Time; and several of our Men made thirty Discharges each on the Enemy, who were again routed. In this Action there was but one Prisoner taken. Upon Return of this Party, another Scout was sent out the next Day, who returned in two Days, and brought ten Prisoners, who reported, that many of their People were killed and wounded in the last Skirmish. Our Scouts and Cruizers, at different Times, took and burnt most of their small Settlements, and took about 300 Prisoners.

May 17. The 17th of *May*, the advanced Battery was raised, bearing W. by N. $\frac{1}{2}$ N. 250 Yards Distance from the West Gate, and one 18 Pounder mounted; and the next Night another 18 Pounder and two 42 Pounders were mounted. They were all brought from the Grand Battery, upwards of two Miles, as the Road goes, over a very rough, rocky, hilly Way: From hence not only the West Gate was beaten down, but a Breach made in the Wall adjoining, and the North East Battery was damaged and render'd almost useless, their Guns lying entirely open to the Fire from this Battery. This Battery being so near the Town, there was no Safety in loading the Cannon, but under the Fire of the Musquetry, which was very smart on both Sides. The Enemy generally open'd the Action in the Morning with the Fire of their Small Arms for two Hours, which we returned with Advantage on our Side. We were likewise warmly entertain'd by the Enemy from a Flank
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of their North East Battery, from the West Gate Battery, and the West Flank of the King's Bastion, which last flank'd this Battery; and therefore,

On the 20th a Trench being dug on the *May 20.* South End, one 18 Pounder and two 9 Pounders were brought from the Eight Gun Battery, and mounted upon the South Line against the Flank, which, with the Remainder of the Guns at the Eight Gun Battery, dismounted some of the Enemy's Cannon, and annoy'd them so much, that they were silent the rest of that Day, which was often the Case afterwards.

Particularly *May 22.* the Fire was hot on *May 22.* both Sides till Twelve o'Clock at Noon, when the *French* were beat from their Guns.

The 23d of *May* the Enemy mounted two new *May 23.* Guns at the West Flank of the King's Bastion, but in four Hours were forced to leave them.

The 6th of *June* they had two Guns run out *June 6.* of new Embrazures, cut through the Parapet near the West Gate, which soon began to play with great Fury, and we were obliged to turn three Guns against them, and in three Hours we dismounted one, and silenced the other for that Day. The nine and eleven Inch Mortars with constant Use straining their Beds, occasioned their being removed to this Battery, which was nearer the Enemy, as were also the Cohorns. The Bombs in great Number fell all round, but did very little Damage. There were 10 Men killed, and 15 or 16 wounded, several of them with Musket Balls. In the mean time the Enemy worked constantly in the Night to barricade the Gate-Way, where a Breach was made. They also made a Retrenchment across the Circular Battery, and raised another Work to cover their Magazine, and laid a Boom be-

fore the Town, to hinder Boats from landing under their Walls. At the same Time our Men of War and Cruizers were very diligent, and took several Prizes. And

May 19. On the 19th of *May* there was an Engagement off the Harbour, in Sight of the Camp, between some of our Ships and a *French* Man of War.

May 21. The 21st a Letter came to the General from the Commodore, acquainting him he had taken the *Vigilant*, a *French* Ship of 64 Guns; besides the *Superbe*, the *Mermala*, *Ellbam*, *Massachusetts*'s Frigate, and *Shirley* Galley, were all in the Engagement, and at the taking of her. Three Days after the taking the *Vigilant*, Capt. *Edwards*, in the *Princess Mary* of 60 Guns, joined the Commodore; and the next Day, Capt. *Cornwall*, in the *Hector* of 40 Guns.

May 20. The 20th of *May* the North West Battery, commonly called *Tiscomb's* Battery, was erected, bearing North West by West about 800 Yards Distance from the West Gate, and two 42 Pounders mounted, which were brought from the Grand Battery; and about a Fortnight after were brought three 42 Pounders more. This Battery did great Execution against the Circular Battery: By Means of this Battery and the Advance Battery, not only the West Gate was demolished, but a large Breach was made in the Wall to within ten Feet of the Bottom of the Ditch. The Circular Battery was almost entirely demolished; but three Guns out of sixteen were left standing, and these so exposed to the North West Battery, that nobody could keep the Platform. The West Flank of the King's Bastion was almost entirely ruined, but in some Measure repaired with Timber. This Battery, the

the Advance Battery, and the Eight Gun Battery, were sustained by 1350 Men. After many fruitless Preparations for an Attack on the Island Battery, it was attempted

On the 26th of May at Night, by a Party of May 26.
400 Men; but from the Strength of the Place, and the Advantage the Enemy had of being under Cover, and our Men exposed in open Boats, which a Musket Ball would sink, the Surf running very high, and their not being thoroughly acquainted with the best Place of Landing, they were repulsed with the Loss of about 60 killed and drowned, and 116 taken Prisoners.

The 20th of June, the *Chester* arrived from June 10.
England, and joined the Commodore; and,

On the 12th the *Canterbury* and *Sunderland*; June 12.
as did likewise the *Lark*, with a Store-Ship under her Convoy, bound to *Annapolis Royal*. It being of the utmost Consequence to be Masters of the * Island Battery, and, after the last Attempt, thought impracticable to reduce it by Boats, it was determined to erect a Battery near the Light-house opposite to it, which would be 3400 Feet distant, and in such a Manner, as to be exposed to the Fire of but four of the Enemy's Guns, and at the same Time to flank a Line of above 20 of their Guns; which, notwithstanding the almost insuperable Difficulties that attended

* The Island Battery is a strong Fort at the Entrance into the Harbour, mounted with 30 Guns 28 Pounders, and seven Swivel, having two Brass ten Inch Mortars, and garrison'd with 180 Men.

† The Difficulties were, transporting the Cannon in Boats from *Chopemouche Bay* to the Eastward of the Light-house; and getting them up the Bank of the Shoar, which was a steep craggy Rock; the hawling them a Mile and a Quarter over an incredible bad Way of Hills, Rocks, and Mortalities.

tended it, was happily effected, and two 18 Pounds mounted the 11th of *June*;

June 14. And by the 14th four more, sustained by 320 Men. Powder growing short, the Fire had for some Days been very much slacken'd, and the *French* began to creep a little out of the *Casemates* and *Covers*, where they had hid themselves during the greatest Fierceness of it; but this being the Anniversary of his Majesty's happy Accession to the Throne, it was determined to celebrate it as became loyal Subjects and good Soldiers; and Orders were given for a general Discharge of all the Cannon from every Battery, at Twelve o'Clock; which was accordingly done, and follow'd by an incessant Fire all the rest of the Day; which much disheartened the Enemy, especially as they must be sensible what must be the Consequence of this new Battery. It was now determined, as soon as possible, after the Arrival of the *Canterbury* and *Sunderland*, to make a general Attack by Sea and Land: Accordingly they arriving the next Day, all the Transports were order'd off to take out the spare Masts and Yards, and other Lumber of the Men of War. The Soldiers were employ'd in gathering Moss to barricade their Nettings, and 600 Men were sent on board the King's Ships at the Commodore's Request: The large Mortar was order'd to the Light-house Battery; and a new Supply of Powder arriving, the Fire was more fierce from this Time to

June 15. The 15th, than ever. When the Mortar began to play from the Light-house Battery upon the Island Battery; out of 19 Shells, 17 fell within the Fort, and one of them upon the Magazine, which, together with the Fire from the

the Cannon, to which the Enemy was very much exposed, they having but little to shelter them from the Shot that ranged quite through their Barracks, so terrified them, that many of them left the Fort, and run into the Water for Refuge.

The Grand Battery being in our Possession ; the Island Battery being so much annoy'd by the Light-house Battery ; the North East Battery so open to our Advance Battery, that it was not possible for the Enemy to stand to their Guns ; all the Guns in the Circular Battery except three being dismounted, and the Wall almost wholly broke down ; the West Gate demolished, and a large Breach in the Wall adjoining ; the West Flank in the King's Bastion almost ruined ; all the Houses and other Buildings almost tore to Pieces, but one House in the Town being left unhurt, and the Enemy's Stock of Ammunition growing short, they sent out a Flag of Truce to the Camp, desiring Time to consider upon Articles of Capitulation. This was granted till the next Morning, when they brought out Articles, which were refused, and others sent in by the General and Commodore, and agreed to by the Enemy : Hostages were exchanged ; and

On the 17th of *June*, the City and Fortresses *June 17.* were surrendred, and the Garrison and all the Inhabitants, to the Number of 2000, capable of bearing Arms, made Prisoners, to be transported to *France* with all their personal Effects. During the whole Siege, we had not more than 101 Men killed by the Enemy and all other Accidents, and about 30 died of Sickness. And according to the best Accounts, there were killed of the Enemy within the Walls, about 300, besides Numbers that died by being confined within the Casemates.

We

W E the Subscribers having perused the before-written Journal and Account of the Proceedings of the New-England Land Forces, during the late Expedition against the French Settlements on Cape Breton, to the Time of the Surrender of Louisbourg, to all which Proceedings we were privy, do hereby certify, that the same contains a just Representation of the Transactions and Occurrences therein set forth, and of the Behaviour of the said Forces. In Witness whereof, we have hereto subscribed our Names.

Louisbourg, Oct. 20, 1745.

Wm. Pepperrell, Lieutenant General and Commander in Chief of the New-England Forces.

B. Waldo, Brigadier General of the Land Forces, and Colonel of the Second Regiment.

Sam. Moore, Colonel of the New Hampshire Regiment.

Simon Lothrop, Lieutenant Colonel of the Connecticut Regiment.

Richard Gridley, Lieutenant Colonel of the Train of Artillery.



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